

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL NATO CAPITALS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 080029

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT USNATO 1909 SENT ACTION SECSTATE DTD 08 APR 75

QTE:

S E C R E T USNATO 1909

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: PROPOSED HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS MEETING IN BRUSSELS, MAY
29 AND 30

1. AT THE PERMREPS LUNCHEON HELD TODAY (APRIL 8) AT NETHERLANDS
AMBASSADOR'S HOUSE, BRITISH AMBASSADOR PECK RAISED THE QUESTION
OF A SUMMIT CONFERENCE. HE SAID THE LEAK ON THE SUBJECT HAD
COME FROM THE UNITED STATES REPORTING AN ALLEGED LETTER FROM FOREIGN
MINISTER CALLAGHAN TO SECRETARY KISSINGER. ACCORDING TO HIM,
NO DEFINITE DATES WERE MENTIONED. HE HAD NOT SEEN THE LETTER
HIMSELF.

2. DE ROSE COMMENTED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD CERTAINLY BE
AGAINST ANY SUMMIT MEETING WHICH MIGHT BE REPRESENTED AS CONNECTED

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WITH A LATER RATIFICATION OF THE CSCE. THE GREEK AMBASSADOR ASKED

WHAT THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS WOULD TALK ABOUT. THE NORWEGIAN GAVE AS HIS PERSONAL OPINION THE BELIEF THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD AGREE TO SUCH A MEETING. THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD FAVOR SUCH A SUMMIT BUT THAT IT SHOULD BE UNCONNECTED WITH CSCE. THE DUTCH AMBASSADOR THOUGHT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS SHOULD GATHER ON MAY 29 AND MAY 30, BUT THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS SHOULD CONVENE JUST BEFORE HELSINKI OR SOON AFTERWARDS.

3. THE SYG PRONOUNCED HIMSELF STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF A SUMMIT MEETING COINCIDENT WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTERS DATES OF MAY 29 AND 30. LUXEMBOURG FAVORED SUCH A MEETING. THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR GAVE AS A PERSONAL OPINION HIS BELIEF HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD APPROVE. LATER ON AFTER OTHER SUBJECTS HAD BEEN DISCUSSED, QUESTIONS WERE RAISED AGAIN ABOUT THE SUMMIT. DESTAERCKE, AS HE HAD DONE IN THE BEGINNING, STRONGLY SUPPORTED IT, AND SAID HE WAS SURE THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD, IF REQUESTED ACT AS HOST COUNTRY.

4. THE SYG, DEROSE, AND BRUCE SUMMARIZED THE EXPRESSIONS MADE ON A PERSONAL BASIS BY MOST OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT AS FOLLOWS:

A. ANY SUCH MEETING SHOULD BE COMPLETELY DIVORCED, AS FAR AS PUBLICITY, PRIVATE OR OFFICIAL STATEMENTS WERE MADE, FROM ANY CONNECTION WITH THE CSCE.

B. THE PURPOSE OF THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS COMING TOGETHER WOULD BE TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF INTEREST TO THE NATO ALLIANCE.

C. A MAJORITY OF THOSE PRESENT SEEMD TO FAVOR THE PRINCIPLE THAT IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR NATO AS A DEMONSTRATION OF SOLIDARITY AND THOUGHT THE DATES APPROPRIATE. THE PERMREPS, HOWEVER, WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT THEIR OWN GOVERNMENTS, AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL SHOULD BE INFORMED OF THE RESULTS NOT LATER THAN A WEEK FROM TODAY.

D. BRUCE MADE A RATHER LENGTHY ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF THIS PROJECT.

E. ALL THE VIEWS EXPRESSED WERE ON A PERSONAL BASIS.

5. SOME OF THOSE PRESENT ASKED WHETHER THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR WOULD SEEK PERMISSION FROM HIS GOVERNMENT TO SHOW THEM SECRET

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CALLAGHAN'S LETTER TO SECRETARY KISSINGER OR AT LEAST EXCERPTS FROM IT.

6. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION AS TO WHO WOULD SPONSOR THE CALLING OF A MEETING. DE ROSE FELT THAT THE BRITISH OR AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS MIGHT DO SO, BUT ON NO ACCOUNT SHOULD INVITATIONS BE ISSUED BY NATO.

7. COMMENT: MY IMPRESSION IS THAT THE CANDIANS ARE
LIKELY TO BE THE ONLY DISSSENTERS, AND TO OVERCOME THEIR OBJECTIONS
TRUDEAU WILL HAVE TO BE CONVERTED. THE DUTCH OBJECTIONS,
BECAUSE OF THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION IN HOLLAND, CAN
PROBABLY SUCCESSFULLY BE HANDLED BY THE SYG WHO IS ENTHUSIASTIC
ABOUT THE PROPOSAL.

8. AFTER LUNCH DE ROSE TOLD ME PRIVATELY THAT HE THOUGHT HIS
GOVERNMENT WOULD AGREE TO A MEETING ON THE DATES SUGGESTED,
BUT GISCARD MIGHT NOT ATTEND, IN WHICH CASE HIS PRIME MINISTER
PROBABLY WOULD.BRUCE

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